

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR OCT 80

SUBJECT Use of Children's Summer Camps
to Indoctrinate Rumanian Youth

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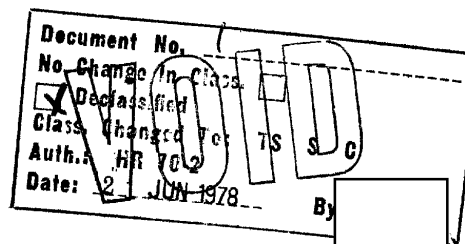
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1. Summer camps for children, which have been set up by various agencies of the government and trade unions, are designed to provide an opportunity for their indoctrination in Communism.
2. It is believed by some that these camps will also provide quarters to house the children who would be evacuated in the event of an outbreak of hostilities. This belief is furthered by the fact that work on summer camps for children was underway as late as the end of July, at a time when the summer vacation was one-half over. Furniture was being moved into the camps at that time, and school buildings were still being taken over for use as camps. An outbreak of hostilities would provide an excuse to keep the children in camps indefinitely and away from parental influence. Admission to children's camps is now forbidden to all except the camp personnel.
3. Distrust and fear of the children's camps is widespread. Despite a heavy propaganda campaign, less than one-half the number of children for whom provision was made entered the camps. In numerous cases children escaped from trains taking them to camps or fled from the camps after arrival. Some parents hid their children to prevent enrollment.

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